

House Study Bill 538 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON KOESTER)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act removing prohibitions on emergency management
- 2 organization employees from holding elective office.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 29C.16, Code 2016, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **29C.16 Political activity prohibited.**

4 ~~1.~~ A person employed by any organization for emergency
5 management established under **this chapter** shall not:

6 ~~a.~~ 1. During working hours or when performing official
7 duties or when using public equipment or at any time on public
8 property, take part in any way in soliciting any contribution
9 for any political party or any person seeking political office.

10 ~~The provisions of **this section** do not preclude any employee
11 from holding any nonpartisan elective office for which no pay
12 is received or any office for which only token pay is received.~~

13 ~~b.~~ 2. Seek or attempt to use any political endorsement in
14 connection with any appointment to a position created under
15 this chapter.

16 ~~c.~~ 3. Use any official authority or influence for the
17 purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the
18 results ~~thereof~~ of an election.

19 ~~2. Any employee of an organization for emergency management
20 shall not become a candidate for any partisan elective office.~~

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 This bill relates to prohibitions on emergency management
25 organization employees from holding elective office.

26 Under current law, such employees are prohibited from
27 taking part in soliciting contributions for political parties
28 or political candidates at certain times, from seeking or
29 using a political endorsement in connection to appointment to
30 an emergency management position, and from interfering with
31 elections and election results. Current law provides that such
32 prohibitions do not preclude emergency management organization
33 employees from holding certain nonpartisan elective offices.
34 The bill strikes the language providing this exception and
35 strikes another provision that prohibits such employees from

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1 becoming candidates for partisan elective office.